

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 TRSE-00 DEAE-00 AID-05 /016 W

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R 101640Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 220

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: EAID EFIN ETRD PFOR SNAR SOCI HA

SUBJ: ASSISTANCE TO HAITIAN CUSTOMS

REF: PAP 1570, 1516, 1368.

1. NEW DIRECTOR OF PAUP CUSTOMS, ALBERT BOSCR, HAS TAKEN HIS ASSIGNMENT FOLLOWING THE RECENT WAVE OF ARRESTS AND RESIGNATIONS FOR THEFT AND CORRUPTION AS A SIGNAL TO PROCEED WITH THE BADLY-NEEDED REORGANIZATION OF CUSTOMS. HE IS HOPING TO UNDERTAKE SOME OF THE ORGANIZATIONAL REFORMS SUGGESTED IN THE 1973 REPORT PREPARED BY THE IMF CUSTOMS ADVISER. FIRST PRIORITY IS PERSONNEL. DESPITE SHORTAGES OF PEOPLE BECAUSE OF THE ARRESTS, BOYER IS INSISTING THAT NEW EMPLOYEES ENTER THROUGH COMPETITIVE EXAMINATION, RATHER THAN THE TRADITIONAL ROUTE THROUGH POLITICAL CONNECTIONS. HE ALSO HOPES TO CONTINUE AND EXPAND THE TRAINING PROGRAM WHICH HAS RECENTLY BEEN INITIATED WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF THE IMF CONSULTANT ON CUSTOMS.

2. BOYER HAS ASKED EMBASSY ASSISTANCE IN DETERMINING WHETHER U.S. CUSTOMS COULD PROVIDE HAITI WITH SERVICES OF THE MOBILE INSTRUCTION TEAM WHICH GIVES TWO-WWK COURSES IN HOW TO SEARCH. EVIDENTLY DURING THE MAY 8-9 CUSTOMS CONFERENCE IN MIAMI, GERALD MCMANUS, DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR INTERNATIONAL OPERATIONS OF U.S. CUSTOMS SERVICE, OFFERED TO SEND SUCH A TEAM TO HAITI AND SUGGESTED THAT IT MIGHT BE AVAILABLE IN AUGUST. BOYER HAS NEITHER FOLLOWED UP WITH NOR HEARD ANYTHING FROM MCMANUS SINCE THAT TIME.

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3. EMBASSY COMMENT: IN OUR VIEW THIS IS MOST PROPITIOUS  
MOMENT IN YEARS TO HELP HAITI MAKE PROGRESS IN CUSTOMS REFORM.  
PRESIDENT DUVALIER SEEMS DETERMINED TO CLEAR OUT CORRUPTION  
IN THIS AREA AND THE IMPETUS HAS NOW REACHED THE WORKING LEVEL.  
CUSTOMS COOPERATION COUNCEL IN BRUSSELS WILL BE INFORMED OF  
PROSPECTS FOR IMPROVEMENT AND PERHAPS CAN BE PERSUADED TO  
INCREASE HELP TO HAITI. HOWEVER, IT WOULD ALSO BE USEFUL TO  
SHOW U.S. SUPPORT FOR THE EFFORTS BEING MADE.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENTS'S CHECKING  
WITH U.S. CUSTOMS TO DETERMINE WHETHER OR NOT TEAM DESCRIBED  
BY MCMANUS COULD BE MADE AVAILABLE IN HAITI, PERHAPS IN AUGUST  
AND AGAIN IN DECEMBER. IF SO, WHAT WOULD BE PROCEDURE FOR  
MAKING REQUEST? CAN U.S. CUSTOMS AND/OR DEA FUND THE  
VISIT, IN VIEW OF THE IMPORTANT ROLE PROPER SEARCHING TECHNIQUES  
CAN PLAY IN DETECTING SMUGGLED NARCOTICS?  
ISHAM

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 10 JUL 1975  
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